

Control of our media by a handful of organizations is in the worst possible interest -- the financial advancement of extremely wealthy corporations at the expense of democracy and availability of choice.

Congress has clearly stated that it supports localism in broadcasting, and that it objects to reducing restrictions on monopolistic ownership of media outlets. Public opinion is nearly unanimous in opposition to this proposal. Its proponents should be ashamed of themselves for the closed-door fashion in which it has been developed. The Commission has made a clear statement that it wishes to enhance competition in communications; it will not achieve this by allowing five corporations to control virtually all of the content available to a huge majority of the population.

The trend needs to run in the opposite direction. The public interest is nearly always better served by smaller corporations.